

COUNTRY <u>East Germany</u>		REPORT
TOPIC <u>Military Information from Grimma</u>		25X1
EVALUATION <u>[redacted]</u>	PLACE OBTAINED <u>[redacted]</u>	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT <u>[redacted]</u>		
DATE OBTAINED <u>[redacted]</u>	PREPARED <u>4 March 1953</u>	25X1
REFERENCES <u>[redacted]</u>		
PAGES <u>3</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u>[redacted]</u>	25X1
REMARKS <u>[redacted]</u>		
<u>[redacted]</u>		
<u>[redacted]</u>		
<u>This is UNEVALUATED Information</u>		25X1

- From 30 January to 6 February 1953, the Strassburg Kaserne, south of Leipziger Strasse, opposite Gerichtsweg, Grimma, was occupied by about 1,800 to 2,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including a few with tank insignia. On 16 January, all barracks buildings were lighted at dusk. On 30 January, about 150 to 200 soldiers were drilling and practicing marksmanship in the barracks yard, and a T-34 tank without turret and occupied by 5 to 6 soldiers entered the installation, coming from the direction of Leipzig. At about 3 p.m. on 6 February, 8 T-34/85 tanks, [redacted] entered the installation, coming from the direction of the training area. They were followed by 8 to 10 high-ranking officers who carried briefcases. At about 3:30 p.m. four small armored scout cars [redacted] entered the installation, coming from the direction of the training area.

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- From 30 January to 6 February, the Elsner Kaserne on Franz Mehring Strasse was occupied by about 800 troops. Sentries seen there wore red-bordered black epaulets. On 30 January, about 50 to 60 soldiers received training in firing in the installation. About 20 trucks, [redacted] were in front of the shed in the south section of the installation. Officers and EM entering and leaving the installation wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and engineer insignia. [redacted]

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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4. On 19 January, the west section of the Elsner Kaserne was occupied by an officer instruction course in the strength of 130 men.
5. On 19 January, the east section of the Elsner Kaserne was occupied by about 300 soldiers, including 150 wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia, and the others wearing engineer insignia. On 18 January, 40 soldiers left the installation for the club. On 12 January, truck [ ] towing an AT gun left the installation toward the town. On 18 January, 6 trucks, including [ ] and towing 120-mm mortars were seen en route to the installation, coming from the direction of the town. [ ]  
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6. On 3 February, the Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by tank units and, possibly, by artillery and motor transport units totaling about 500 to 700 men. [ ]  
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7. On 3 February, the east section of the Elsner Kaserne was occupied by about 300 troops, including 50 soldiers of a signal unit and an undetermined number of engineer soldiers. On 25 January, 150 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia left the installation and marched to the club. [ ]  
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8. On 30 January, the Elsner Kaserne was occupied by about 600 to 700 troops wearing red-bordered black or black-bordered crimson epaulets and including a few officers wearing tank or artillery insignia. About 50 percent of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted after sunset. About 70 soldiers engaged in formation drill in the barracks yard during the morning hours and the afternoon hours. [ ]  
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9. On 30 January, the Strassburg Kaserne was occupied by about 400 to 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. About 40 to 50 percent of the windows of the barracks buildings were lighted at dusk. During the morning hours, about 30 soldiers were seen at maintenance work in a motor vehicle shed and 40 soldiers were seen marching to the garages in the central section of the installation. [ ]  
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10. On 10 January, about 60 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets were seen at a field exercise at the Otterwisch training grounds. The unit later left toward Grimma. On 16 January, two tanks practiced driving at the training grounds and subsequently left toward Grimma. On 24 January, about 600 to 700 troops supported by 5 T-34 tanks, [ ] and 10 x 37-mm AA guns, held a field exercise at the training grounds. The troops had arrived on trucks [ ] from the direction of Grimma. On 27 January, six T-34 tanks, [ ] were seen at driving practice in the training area.  
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11. On 30 January, all buildings of the Strassburg Kaserne were fully lighted at dusk. At about 5 p.m. on 14 January, about 750 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia, and 3 T-34/85 tanks returned from the training area.

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12. On 30 January, all buildings of the Elsner Kaserne were lighted after nightfall. On 21 January, about 80 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia received instruction on 6 x 76-mm guns in the installation. On 30 January, 80 soldiers left the installation toward the town. At about 11 a.m. on 17 January, 42 officers arrived aboard a regular train from the direction of Goebeln-Dresden and proceeded to the Nagema installation. On 26 January, all windows of the installation were lighted.

13. On 14 January, about eight T-34/85 tanks were firing with light ammunition and practiced aiming at the Otterwisch tank firing range. About 750 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank insignia, were seen. At about 8 a.m. on 23 January, seven T-34/85 tanks and 550 troops were seen. 1

1. Comment. The observations in the two barracks installations in Grimma and at the Otterwisch troop training grounds fairly definitely confirm the 21st Gds Mecz Regt of the 8th Gds Mecz Div in Grimma, with the regiment most probably being distributed in the two barracks installations. This is indicated by numerous motor vehicle [ ] previously observed in Leipzig, where, prior to the fall of 1952, the regiment had been stationed, and which were recently observed en route to the two barracks installations; and by the joint exercises of up to 8 T-34 tanks along with several hundred soldiers in the Otterwisch area. In addition to elements of the 21st Gds Mecz Regt, the 133d Gds Engr Bn, the unidentified signal battalion of the 8th Gds Mecz Div and an officer instruction course are carried in the Elsner Kaserne. Tank [ ] were previously believed to belong to the 9th Tank Div. As the tank [ ] according to several credible reports, has changed, [ ] probably belongs to the 8th Gds Mecz Div.

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